

S/N 09/484,344

PATENTRemarks

Reconsideration is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. This response, taken together with the response filed March 26, 2002, are fully responsive to the final office action and to the outstanding Advisory Action. Applicant requests that the March 26, 2002 response be entered along with the current response.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the discussing the Advisory Action in a telephone discussion on April 16, 2002 with Applicant's representative, James A. Larson. During the discussion, Applicant proposed submitting a drawing in schematic form illustrating the frame connected to only the inner surface of the fixed window panel. It is Applicant's understanding that such a drawing will be accepted by the Examiner, provided there is original support for such a limitation, and provided that the drawing contains no new matter. No agreement was reached concerning the allowability of this case.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner asserts that the drawings do not show the fixed window panel attached at only the inner surface. Applicant respectfully traverses. First, Figure 2 of the drawings illustrates the frame 221 and fixed window panel 222 together, and the description sets forth that the frame 221 is fitted on the inside face of the panel 222, such that there is no visible external frame (page 7, lines 10-19 of the original specification). Therefore, Figure 2 does illustrate the frame 221 connected to the fixed window panel 222 at only the inner surface of the fixed window panel.

However, in order to more clearly illustrate this concept, Applicant submits herewith a proposed drawing correction in which new Figure 4 is proposed to be added. Figure 4 represents the connection of the frame 221 to only the inner surface of the fixed window panel 222, with the frame 221 and the fixed window panel 222 being schematically represented by "black boxes". The boxes do not represent the shapes of the frame 221 and the fixed window panel 222.

The addition of new figure 4 is supported by the original disclosure, for example page 7, lines 10-19 and claim 4 of the original specification.

Applicant will submit formal drawings incorporating the new figure upon approval of the figure by the Examiner.

The specification has been amended to include a brief description of new figure 4. Further, figure 4 is referenced in the description.

S/N 09/484,344

PATENT

The Advisory Action also indicates that the term "fixed" reads on the prior art and the term "touching" is suggested as an alternative. Applicant appreciates the assistance of the Examiner. Applicant notes, however, that independent claims 42 and 48 do not use the word "fixed" when setting forth the relationship between the frame and the fixed window panel. Instead, Applicant recites that the frame is connected to the fixed window panel. The only time the word "fixed" appears in these two claims is when reciting the element "fixed window panel". A somewhat similar term, "means for fixing", is also used in these two claims. In each case, use of the word "touching" in place of "fixed" window panel and means for "fixing" is nonsensical.

The word "fixed" is used in dependent claims 43 and 49. It is not clear whether these are the claims the Examiner is referring to. However, use of the word "touching" in these two claims also appears to be nonsensical.

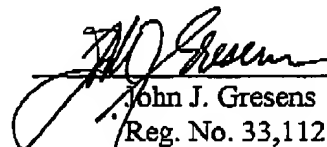
Conclusion

With these amendments, and the amendments filed March 26, 2002, Applicant believes that this patent application is in immediate condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. If any issues remain which the Examiner feels may be resolved over the telephone, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned in order to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612/332-5300

Date: April 16, 2002



John J. Gresens
Reg. No. 33,112
JJG/JAL

S/N 09/484,344

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	CHAUVIN	Examiner:	C. COHEN
Serial No.:	09/484,344	Group Art Unit:	3634
Filed:	JANUARY 18, 2000	Docket No.:	9320.95US01
Title:	MANUFACTURING PROCESS FOR AN AUTOMOBILE VEHICLE DOOR, AND THE CORRESPONDING DOOR		

Marked-up Copy Showing ChangesIn the Specification

Applicant proposes amending the specification as follows. All page and line numbers are in reference to the substitute specification filed on March 26, 2002.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 3, with the following replacement paragraph:

- - figure 3 is a simplified block diagram of the process for manufacturing a door like that illustrated in figure 2[.];
- figure 4 is a schematic illustration of the frame connected to the fixed window panel at only the inner surface of the fixed window panel.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 1, with the following replacement paragraph:

-- The upper part 22 is provided with a single-piece, fixed window panel 222 made of glass or a similar material, and a movable window panel 223. A frame 221 fitted on the inside face (facing the inside of the vehicle), as schematically illustrated in Figure 4, surrounds the window panel 222. Obviously, the frame 221 could be reduced to only two approximately vertical uprights, possibly over only part of the height of the window panel 222.--